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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/673,469	09/30/2003	Yuichiro Mizumachi	NIP-252-02	1995

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MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.
1800 DIAGONAL ROAD
SUITE 370
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

MCCLELLAN, JAMES S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3627

DATE MAILED: 04/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/673,469

Applicant(s)

MIZUMACHI ET AL.

Examiner

James S McClellan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 6-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 6-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Preliminary Amendment

1. Applicant's submittal of a preliminary amendment on 9/30/03 was entered, wherein:
 - claims 6-10 are pending;
 - claims 1-5 have been canceled; and
 - claims 6-10 have been added.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. Applicant's submittal of an Information Disclosure Statement on 9/30/03 was fully considered (see attached PTO-1449).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 6, 7, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,216,612 (Cornett).

Regarding **claim 6**, Cornett discloses a system for supplying parts for management and maintenance of a product to users, comprising: a server (1) connected to user terminals (; see also column 10, lines 8-10, wherein "one or more personal computers [terminals] may also be used for one or more subsystems of the entire maintenance system) and manufacturer terminals

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(15A-15N); and a database (8) having at least one piece of information pertaining to parts for management and maintenance of the product (information of periods of parts delivered; see column 14, lines 52-58), wherein said server (1) is provided with a function of outputting parts information stored in said database (8) to said user terminals (see column 9, lines 34-55), a function of renewing information of parts selected by the users to be selected parts information, in said parts information stored in said database (8); and a function of outputting said selected parts information to said manufacturer terminals (15); and [claim 7] said server (1) is connected to a terminal of a cooperating manufacturer (16A-16N).

Claim 10 is rejected for reasons set forth in detail above for the combination of claims 6 and 7.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cornett in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,712,989 (Johnson).

Cornett discloses all the claimed elements as set forth above for claims 6 and 7, but fails to explicitly disclose the use of one-way communication.

Johnson teaches that it is old and well known in the art to utilize one-way communication between business partners in a procurement system (see column 1, lines 33-50).

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Cornett with Johnson, because one-way communication allows more secure communication than two-way communication.

7. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cornett in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,363,365 (Kou).

Cornett discloses all the claimed elements as set forth above for claims 6 and 7, but fails to explicitly disclose the use of limited access capability in a procurement system.

Kou teaches the use of limited access capability in a procurement system (see column 1, lines 33-36).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Cornett with limited access capability as taught by Kou, because providing limited access capability increases information security and integrity.

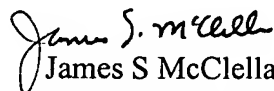
Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James S McClellan whose telephone number is (571) 272-6786. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:30-6:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Olszewski Robert can be reached on (571) 272-6788. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


James S McClellan
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3627

jsm
April 21, 2005